

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 36133 121256Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

-----017313 121257Z /44

O 121236Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2934

WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 36133

NODIS

WHITE HOUSE FOR BRZEZINSKI

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR VEST

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVLP (CARTER, JIMMY)

SUBJ: POSSIBLE CARTER-MITTERRAND MEETING

1. EMBASSY HAS JUST RECEIVED WHAT WE THINK IS A SERIOUS PROBE BY PS NATIONAL SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS ROBERT PONTILLON REGARDING A POSSIBLE MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND MITTERRAND. PONTILLON APPROACHED AN EMBASSY OFFICER FOLLOWING MITTERRAND'S PRESS CONFERENCE DECEMBER 11, AT WHICH MTERRAND HAD REFUSED SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT TO A QUESTION ABOUT A POSSIBLE MEETING.

2. PONTILLON TOLD US THAT MITTERND WAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO A MEETING BUT THAT THE MODALITIES WOULD HAVE TO BE APPROPRIATE. HE SAID THAT MITTERRAND WOULD NOT AGREE TO A TEN MINUTE MEETING SQUEEZED IN, FOR EXAMPLE, BETWEEN OTHER FRENCH POLITICIANS. NEITHER WOULD HE COME TO THE EMBASSY CHANCERY BUT DID NOT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 36133 121256Z

APPEAR TO EXCLUDE THE EMBASSY RESIDENCE. PONTILLON FELT THAT THE MEETING SHOULD BE AT LEAST ONE"HALF HOUR.

3. WE CANNOT EXCLUDE THAT PONTILLON MAY BE REE" WHEELING, AS HE SOMETIMES DOES. BUT WE ARE INCLINED TO THINK THAT THIS IS A SERIOUS PROBE, BASED AT LEAST

ON INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS HE HAS HAD WITH TITTERHAND.
WE WOULD LIKE TO BE IN A POSITION TO CALL PONTILLON
BACK, TO SAY THAT WE UNDERSTAND THAT HE HAS MADE A
SERIOUS REQUEST, AND--IF ONTILLON CONFIRMS THAT HE
HAS NOT JUST BEEN SPEAKING PERSONALLY--TO INDICATE
A SPECIFIC TIME AND PLACE FOR THE MEETING. WE WOULD
LIKE TO BE ABLE TO TELL PONTILLON THAT THE PRESIDENT
WOULD BE PREPARED TO MEET WITH MITTERRAND FROM 9:00 A.M
TO 9:30 A.M. THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, AT THE AMERICAN
EMBASSY RESIDENCE. (WITH PRESIDENT'S DEPARTURE FOR
NORMANDY NOW DEFERRED ONE HOUR UNTIL 10:00 A.M., THIS
WOULD ALLOW TIME TO MEET WITH THE ONLY OTHER POTENTIAL
CALLER, OECD SECRETARY-GENERAL VAN LENNEP, BETWEEN
8:15 AND 8:45.)

4. TO AVOID POSSIBLE RECRIMINATIONS IF PLANNING GOES
AWRY, I STRONGLY RECOMMEND YOUR APPROVAL OF THIS
PROCEDURE. IT ENABLES US TO MAKE THE POINT THAT THE
REQUEST HAS COME FROM MITTERRAND (BASED TO BE SURE
ON THE PRESIDENT'S "L'EXPRESS" INTERVIEW) AND TO
OFFER SPECIFICS FOR A MEETING SO THAT WE CANNOT BE
ACCUSED LATER OF BEING UNWILLING TO ARRANGE A MEETING.

5. IN VIEW OF THE DEPARTURE OF MITTERRAND AND
PONTILLON FOR JAPAN SOMETIME WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14,
I HOPE YOU CAN LET ME HAVE YOUR DECISION ASAP.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 36133 121256Z

HARTMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETINGS, PRESS CONFERENCES, CAT-A
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PARIS36133
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: WHITE HOUSE FOR BRZEZINSKI, STATE DEPARTMENT FOR VEST
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840084-1324
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771266/aaaacdwx.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 88873806-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 271137
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE CARTER-MITTERRAND MEETING
TAGS: OVIP, SOPN, US, FR, (CARTER, JIMMY), (MITTERRAND)
To: STATE WHITE HOUSE MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/88873806-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009